

2019 ACS National Award winners

Recipients are honored for contributions of major significance to chemistry

by *Linda Wang*

JANUARY 21, 2019 | APPEARED IN **VOLUME 97, ISSUE 3**

ACS Award in Theoretical Chemistry: Donald G. Truhlar

Sponsor: ACS Division of Physical Chemistry

Citation: For creative contributions to theoretical chemistry in electronic structure, chemical dynamics, continuum solvation, and the development of new density functionals for practical calculations of thermochemical quantities

Current position: Regents Professor, Department of Chemistry, and Graduate Faculty of Chemical Physics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis

Education: BA, chemistry, St. Mary's College, Minnesota; PhD, chemistry, California Institute of Technology



Credit: Courtesy of Donald G. Truhlar

Donald G. Truhlar

Truhlar on the value of basic research: "I believe that fundamental research is important for many issues faced by our society, especially in the fields of energy and the environment, and I want my research to contribute in these areas. I try to do this by developing new methods—more practical and more accurate—for using quantum mechanical theory to address the science underlying these challenges."

What his colleagues say: "There is no scientist whom I admire more than Don Truhlar. His intellectual power, breadth of knowledge, and accomplishments are astounding. Don is also a remarkably kind, generous, and helpful member of the chemistry community; he demonstrates total integrity and the highest standards in all he does. He is an extraordinarily visible and prolific physical chemist."—William L. Jorgensen, Yale University